

## LIBERTY STANDARD.

"Pclaim Liberty throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof."—Leviticus, 25: 10.

VOL. IV.

HALLOWELL, MAINE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1844.

NO. 20.

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right, and I took particular notice of them; looked at the man as he turned round to look at me; this is the same man; I was in town the next Tuesday; took some newspapers home, and the next day my brother was reading one of them; he said here's an advertisement of some negroes lost, and on looking at it, found it had described the boy I had seen; we concluded we ought to let the advertiser know of it; wrote him a letter; witness recognized the advertisement; (letter produced) it was written by my brother; this is the letter; when I saw them the second time they were only about 20 steps from the place where they were when I first saw them; I am certain this is the man; when I went to the magistrate's office, I picked him out directly.

By Mr. Johnson. The reason I did not write the letter, I was fixing to go to the Clay Club; I furnished the facts, and the letter was read to me afterwards; the place where I saw them about thirty miles from Baltimore; the road is pretty good; I have stated that I thought I had seen the traverser before, at my uncle's in 1832, at the time of the cholera, that person staid at my uncle's and went about gunning with the negroes; his general appearance was something the same as the traverser; I did not get nearer to the man at the creek than the abutment of the bridge, about ten feet off; I was about ten feet above him, he directly under me; when I saw him again he was a little farther off, and was eating sausage and crackers; he had on a blue coat and a cap; don't remember his other clothes; I stood looking at him about five or ten minutes that time, and when I went away, left them eating.

Robert Ridgon, sworn. Lives in Harford county, on the Peachbottom road; the other side of Deer Creek about a mile and a half; I'm a blacksmith; have a shop about half a mile from my house up the road; on the 5th of June, in the morning, I saw a carriage going up with a couple of dun horses and white tails and manes; a white man was in it with a black woman; I was in my shop, the carriage returned again, in the evening, towards Baltimore; I saw the carriage again on the 7th of June; it had in it a white man, (the traverser) there were two black women in the carriage; they were going along laughing; the old woman had a tooth out in front; the other appeared about 18 or 20; the white man and boy sat in front; I did not see the carriage again; the traverser is that white man; I picked him out at the magistrate's office.

Cross-examined by Mr. Johnson. There are I presume, a number of other places in town where Bologna sausages, crackers, and cheese are freely exposed in the house; they have always been at the command of the servants. Have been dealing with Mr. Henry Henderson ever since he commenced business, and sold out to Mr. Tyler, which is since the servants went away, I believe; I then dealt with Mr. Holder, his clerk; I have still in use the crackers of Mr. Henderson.

Cross-examined by Mr. Johnson. There are I

them this time; they laughed and drove on slowly; as they laughed, the old woman showed a tooth lacking on the side of her mouth; I noticed it particularly; the other woman and boy were youngish; the woman had on dark dresses, and the boy a steel-mixed roundabout; the man was dressed in dark clothes; he had whiskers and wore a cap; there sits the gentleman; he's the same identical man, only he's got his whiskers off and had a cap on.

In the same afternoon, I went down to my brother-in-law's, and going through by the ford at the bridge, I found a place where some creatures had been eating off the face of the earth; some horses or something that eats oats; and a little distance off near the wood, I found some fragments of Bologna sausages and some crackers marked "H. H." and took them home to a little pet boy; on looking round me there awhile, I found some bits of ribbon, and took them home to a little daughter I have; (the pieces of ribbon produced by witness) on Saturday morning I went down to Clark's to ask leave to cut a tree, to have some bees, and then I saw the same carriage come down with the white man in it empty.

Cross-examined by Mr. Johnson.—I found near the place where the oats were, some bits of crackers, and one whole one, which I gave to the child; I have not got that; the bits of ribbon, my little daughter would not accept them, and then I put them in my pocket; I was on the left side of the carriage, the old woman on the right side, and when she laughed I saw the tooth was out; it was out of the upper jaw; about her eye tooth; a little to the left side of the front; the old woman had a bonnet on and a veil over it, not over her face; they had on a sort of mourning clothes; the other woman had a black veil, both appeared to be in mourning for some particular friend.

Mr. Johnson.—This was the 5th?

Witness.—No sir, it was on the upper side of Rockbridge. [A burst of laughter.]

Resumed.—I have seen this same man go up and down the road often with other horses; I saw him once last November; he was dressed then in fall clothing; the color would about pass for blue. By Mr. Cox.—When I found the ribbon, it was at the time of year when we generally have pleasant weather.

By a juror.—On the 7th, when I saw the horses they were jaded down.

By Mr. Johnson.—They were not sweating; they were almost got beyond a sweat; I mean by that they were so jaded that they couldn't travel fast enough to sweat.

Charles Heckrode, sworn. About three or four weeks previous my sister had trimmed Judah's bonnet with some ribbon from her bonnet; I can swear these pieces are some of the same ribbon; there was not quite enough, and another piece almost like it was got to make it out. [Witness produced a piece which, when compared with the carriage, was found to be of the same pattern.]

Cross-examined by Mr. Johnson.—I believe Judah had more than one bonnet; it was a straw bonnet, that had been dressed in black before this ribbon was put on. Her mother had a straw bonnet.

Mrs. Morling, sworn.—Stated that some time before the servants of Mr. Heckrode went away, she trimmed Judah's bonnet with some ribbon that had been on her child's bonnet; there was not quite enough and she had to take some from another piece, not exactly like the other; a portion of which she now produced; it had been taken from her own bonnet; it was compared with the pieces found, and corresponded with them, with the exception of some difference in the color of a stripe, which in that produced was green, in the piece of the same pattern found was yellow, the suggestion being that it had faded to yellow from exposure.

The cross-examination of the witness elicited nothing varying from the examination in chief.

The State called Thomas Southmayd, who appeared on the stand. Mr. Johnson produced a record of the proceedings of the criminal court of New York in proof that this witness had been convicted therein of horse stealing, and had served a period of three years in the penitentiary for this offence, a fact which the witness admitted. Some discussion then took place between Messrs. Johnson and Richardson on the admissibility of the evidence of this witness, which was decided by the court in favor of it. The examination then proceeded, Mr. Johnson first obtaining from Mr. Metcalfe, clerk of the court, two indictments against Southmayd; one for stealing a horse, and the other for stealing a sleigh in this city, and on which he is now awaiting his trial in jail.

Thomas Southmayd, sworn.—Had a conversation with Mr. Torrey in jail, about the charge against him; he told me about it while he was trying to escape. He told me he had taken away Mr. Heckrode's slaves, and said he had also taken away a good many slaves from Harford county; he also said he had taken a number of slaves from this State; he said he had directed them to come to a house at the back of Greenmount Cemetery, and there he would meet them and take them to Pennsylvania, to Church street, I believe he said. I conversed with Southmayd on the back porch of the jail, where one of the wardens brought him to me; I afterwards went out with Mr. Patterson and I believe he had some conversation with Southmayd.

Warden Graham, sworn.—When Torrey came into jail he wore whiskers; he shaved them off I think about 5 or 6 weeks ago.

By Mr. Johnson.—They were thin black whiskers, passing under the chin.

The State here closed the case on the part of the prosecution, and the defence called up.

Capt. Wise, sworn.—Has known Southmayd about seven years; he sailed in a ship with me about two years; from my knowledge of his character, I would not believe him on his oath; he was by the name of Thomas B. Hatch.

By Mr. Richardson.—I have never heard any one speak particularly of his character for veracity; I have heard of his general character. Mr. Richardson urged, upon this statement, that the individual opinion of this witness was not evidence.

Mr. Johnson contended that if it was proved that the witness would not believe him on his oath, the evidence was admissible. If the man's general character was universally bad, no man would suspect him of the peculiar virtue of veracity.

The court expressed an opinion that the evidence must be confined to the general character for veracity.

Mr. Johnson prayed the court to allow him to look to the authority on the subject. He then quoted from Phillip, page 271, the opinion of Justice Buller, that there were two ways of impeaching the credibility of a witness, one of which is by proving that his general reputation is so bad that he would not be believed on oath.

The court stated that it had always required the examination of a counter witness to be confined to veracity, and should do so in this instance.

Mr. Johnson continued the examination—I have heard persons say they wouldn't believe him.

By Mr. Richardson.—I don't know that I said I had never heard his character for veracity spoken of.

Justice Gray, sworn.—Is a magistrate; there are two rooms in my office; the witnesses came in to the front room before the time ruled for trial, and were conducted into the back office; they were witnesses also in a civil case against Torrey at the suit of Woodward; the Ridgon's were there; the examination in the criminal charge was conducted by Messrs. Cox and Gallagher; Mr. Torrey stood near me some time, and afterwards sat down just below me; when young Heckrode came in he was asked if he could recognize the person he had seen at his father's gate; he said it was dark and he didn't know that he could identify him; he was told to look round the office, and finally pointed to Mr. Torrey and said "I think that is the man."

Mr. Cox, sworn.—I was counsel with Mr. Gallagher, employed by Mr. Torrey to defend him in a civil suit; my recollection of the proceedings is the same as those of Mr. Gray, with the exception of the position of Mr. Torrey, who stood by the side of Mr. Gallagher, and was continually conversing with him; my recollection of young Heckrode's identification is distinct; he said it was a dark night, and he could not say positively who was the man; I was about to cross-examine him, when Mr. Collins, who was engaged by Mr. Woodward in the civil suit, remarked that that was not necessary, inasmuch as the young man had failed to identify him.

Robert Gamble, sworn.—Was in the room where Torrey was confined; there were 6 beside myself; Southmayd took a part in trying to get out; he had the saw and worked with it.

Mr. Richardson.—I can't say where the saw came from; it was there when I was put there; I was in the room when they were attempting to get out; it was in the daytime; I did not assist; there were five of them who worked at it.

Warden Graham recalled.—On the morning we discovered the attempt to break out, we removed the prisoners, and whilst I was ironing Mr. Torrey, he said he was sorry for the others in the room if they were to suffer, as he had been the sole originator and instigator of the attempt to escape; he spoke particularly of Southmayd, who he said had nothing to do with it.

Simeon Hays, sworn.—I saw a letter from Ridgon to Mr. Heckrode, in relation to his negroes; he showed it to me; I don't recall to recollect having received any letter in relation to it; I think I saw one or two that Mr. Heckrode received, I think he said had nothing to do with it.

The defence was here shown by the indictments against him.

Samuel F. Ridgon, sworn.—Lives in Harford county, beyond Deer Creek, on the south side of Rockbridge; I saw on the 5th of June a carriage, open in front, and two cream-colored horses, coming from Peachbottom towards Baltimore; there was a white man driving it; nobody in it with him; on the 7th saw the carriage coming down; I was at Robert Ridgon's; I said we ought to apprehend that fellow, but Robert said that most likely him; I said I'd give him a little of my tongue any how; when they came opposite me, I hallooed to him, and says, You've got a whole family of them this time; they laughed and drove on slowly; as they laughed, the old woman showed a tooth lacking on the side of her mouth; I noticed it particularly; the other woman and boy were youngish; the woman had on dark dresses, and the boy a steel-mixed roundabout; the man was dressed in dark clothes; he had whiskers and wore a cap; there sits the gentleman; he's the same identical man, only he's got his whiskers off and had a cap on.

In the same afternoon, I went down to my brother-in-law's, and going through by the ford at the bridge, I found a place where some creatures had been eating off the face of the earth; some horses or something that eats oats; and a little distance off near the wood, I found some fragments of Bologna sausages and some crackers marked "H. H." and took them home to a little pet boy; on looking round me there awhile, I found some bits of ribbon, and took them home to a little daughter I have; (the pieces of ribbon produced by witness) on Saturday morning I went down to Clark's to ask leave to cut a tree, to have some bees, and then I saw the same carriage come down with the white man in it empty.

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them this time; they laughed and drove on slowly; as they laughed, the old woman showed a tooth lacking on the side of her mouth; I noticed it particularly; the other woman and boy were youngish; the woman had on dark dresses, and the boy a steel-mixed roundabout; the man was dressed in dark clothes; he had whiskers and wore a cap; there sits the gentleman; he's the same identical man, only he's got his whiskers off and had a cap on.

to me after he had determined to escape; before

that, he said nothing about it. I think there were

eight in the room altogether, their names so far as

I know were Stewart, Davis, James Murphy, Robert Gamble, Holmes, Torrey; they did not know him; he told it secretly to me; he did not put confidence in the others; I did not know him before; I was in jail; I suppose he knew what I was there for by the newspapers; I don't know the size of the room exactly; speaking as I am speaking now

I could be heard all over the room; I did not say

anything about it to the other prisoners; I didn't

know proper; I told it afterwards because circumstances alter cases; the time hadn't come; it has

come now; I have told it before to Mr. Heckrode,

I sent for him; when Torrey was going to escape

I should have been a chance I think it likely I

should have gone too; he did not tell me till about a week or ten days before the attempt to escape;

I did not send for Mr. Heckrode till that attempt was frustrated; I thought I was in duty bound to tell Mr. Heckrode then; Mr. Zell came with Mr. Heckrode then; Mr. Zell came with Mr. Heckrode; Mr. Zell was not in the room when I told Mr. Heckrode; I told Mr. Patterson about it; I was promised nothing in my own case if I told it; I did it voluntarily, after I told Mr. Heckrode I had some conversations with the other prisoners; Davis was there once and heard what they said; I told him I did not want to hear anything about it; if he had any thing to tell, he had better tell Mr. Heckrode; I think it was upon the second visit that Mr. Heckrode told Southmayd that he would use his exertions in his behalf; I could not hear what Mr. Heckrode had said before him.

By Mr. Richardson.—I saw Southmayd when he sent for me alone, and Southmayd began to make some disclosures, and I stopped him; I told him I did not want to hear anything about it; if he had any thing to tell, he had better tell Mr. Heckrode; I think it was upon the second visit that Mr. Heckrode told Southmayd that he would use his exertions in his behalf; I could not hear what Mr. Heckrode had said before him.

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finally that of Charles Heckrotte, and Southmayd assailed with a degree of energy and analytical skill concluded resolved to destroy. The gentleman concluded after having spoken two hours and three quarters.

PLEA OF G. R. RICHARDSON, STATE'S ATTORNEY.

Gentlemen of the Jury, the argument which I propose to submit to you this morning, will be confined entirely to the case which is presented by the evidence and the law relating thereto. It is not part of my intention to travel out of the line of argument to which these limits restrict me. I shall not pretend to discuss the subject of slavery as it exists in the South, or the peculiar views and sentiments of an adverse character entertained by the people of the North. All that I have to do, is to speak of the laws of the State of Maryland as we find them—it is by these laws that the prisoner is to be tried, and by the same laws you are sworn as his jurors.

The question which engages our attention is, then, what are the points which are to be presented in this case, and which are to tend to the conviction of this prisoner? It is necessary for the State to establish first, that the traverser was the individual who drove the carriage which was seen passing up the Harford road on the morning of the 7th of June, as referred to by the witnesses; and secondly, that the negroes with him in that carriage were the property of Mr. Heckrotte. This proved, the corollary of charges are established that he enticed, persuaded and assisted them to run away. Now is there a man in that jury box, who having heard all the evidence, doubts that that carriage was driven by the prisoner at the bar? I do not remember that the learned counsel who last addressed you on Saturday, attempted to controvert the fact. It is certain that on the 4th of June he hired the carriage and horses of Mr. Woodward; that he went up the road with that carriage and horses on the morning of the 5th, and returned the same day. It is equally certain that the individual now on trial, drove the carriage. The witnesses to you positively that the prisoner is the person whom they saw sanguined. George Rigdon tells you that he saw him at Deer Creek bridge, and looked at him there for ten minutes.

#### AN EXCITING LAW CASE.

The following striking anecdote of the Attorney General of Massachusetts is told in a late Boston paper.

The Attorney General, now eighty years of age, and said to be more competent to the discharge of the arduous duties of his honorable station than almost any practitioner of experience, as well as a remarkable retention of mental power, was managing a case in behalf of the commonwealth in Middlesex county, where a man was indicted for gouging out the eyes of a girl, because she made oath that he was the father of her illegitimate child.

Her brother, an intelligent lad of nine years of age, was on the stand, as a government witness, and his relation of the fact which he saw produced an electrical effect on the whole audience. The girl was also present, in total blindness, and every circumstance attending the investigation of this horrible barbarity, was highly exciting. The boy stated the preliminary circumstances, and then said, "I was cutting bean poles behind the barn, and my sister was milking. I heard her scream, and then I ran with a pole in my hand. As I came up I saw that he had pulled her over; then he looked over his shoulder to see who was coming, and I struck him with a pole and broke his jaw."

"Why did you not repeat the blow?" exclaimed the Attorney General, carried away by the tremendous interest—"why did you not repeat the blow, and knock his d—d brains out?" "Mr. Attorney," said the Judge, "you well know that profanity in court is a high offence, punishable by imprisonment; but in consequence of the unusual excitement of the case, it will be overlooked."

#### CHRISTIANITY AND SLAVERY.

The report of the Committee of the Massachusetts General Association, appointed some three years ago to address Southern Ecclesiastical bodies on the subject of slavery, is at length published in a pamphlet. It appears that the Committee addressed thirty of those bodies, of the Presbyterian order, and received answers from seven. From the answer of the Presbytery of South Alabama, I take the following specimen of consistency:

"Upon the subject of slavery we have not been able to arrive at the conclusion you have done, that slavery in itself is a moral evil.

"God has undoubtedly sanctioned, and given laws for the government of this institution.

"Neither Christ nor his apostles have condemned, but rather, in their directions to masters and servants, have approved it.

"The authors of these sentiments show a consciousness of what they are doing, by interposing parenthetical clauses, as cushions to break the shock.

In a subsequent part of the document is the following declarations:

"We believe the gospel of Jesus Christ offers the only remedy which can reach their [the slaves] condition, and relieve them from bondage."

The gospel of Jesus Christ relieve men from a condition which 'God has undoubtedly sanctioned' and 'Christ and his apostles have approved!'

Whatever you would that men should do unto you, do even so unto them. This is a precept of Jesus. Now suppose the Alabama Presbytery should tell us that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the only remedy which can reach our condition and relieve us from the yoke of this commandment!

If God and Christ 'have sanctioned and approved' slavery, how is the gospel to remove it? 'Is God a liar?' or is the Presbytery? [Hamp. Gaz.]

#### THE DOMESTIC SLAVE TRADE.

The Whig papers at the North, in endeavoring to make out of this horrible traffic a capital for Henry Clay—the great patron of the inter-State slave-trade—extensively copied the following article from the Norfolk Herald, of Oct. 9, and which the editors of that paper introduce as 'very interesting.' It is a letter from a friend in Charlotte, Virginia, and relates to the condition of the planters in consequence of three successive 'bad years.'

The letter says:

The sales of negroes continue at every court day, and it is to be feared will continue for some time to come. As many as seventy were sold at the last Charlotte Court, and I learn that a large number will be sold at Buckingham Court on Monday next. The public roads give evidence of numerous sales, and large gangs are wending their way to the South. I met a gang of seventy slaves on Thursday last, another of thirty the day after, and on Sunday, a third of twenty or thirty. A hundred in a single gang passed Charlotte Court house two or three weeks since, bound to the South. I speak of what has passed under my own observation. If Texas were annexed, or its independence guaranteed by us, or the great powers of Europe, I have every reason to believe that the stream of emigration would flow in that direction as full as Gen. Waddy Thompson, in his first letter to the National Intelligencer, predicted would be the case. Another series of three successive

bad years would deprive Virginia of one third, perhaps one-half of her slaves. It would be well worth knowing how many slaves have left the State during the last two years. The number would almost exceed belief.

#### CONGRESS.

[Correspondence of the Morning Chronicle.]

The following is a part of Mr. Leavitt's first letter from Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1844.

The testimony of all the men of business I saw in New York, was quite uniform to the effect, that the attempt of the Whigs to create a money panic on account of Mr. Clay's defeat, has proved a signal failure. They have hurt no body but themselves. The necessity of raising money to pay the enormous bets they had made, (especially the large bets into which they were betrayed by their own papers after the election,) would of itself drive stocks enough into market to depress the price; and it is to be noticed, also, that the same sanguine excitement which led to extravagant bets, led also to equally extravagant speculations in fancy stocks, calculating upon the expansion and inflation which it was expected to follow the election of Mr. Clay. Many of the more sober-minded Whigs are now not at all inconsolable for the defeat of Mr. Clay; and some of the wiser men I know, already say that they think it better as it is; they say that now matters will remain on a solid basis; and they think if safe to calculate upon ten years to come of the greatest prosperity and growth this country has ever seen.

I arrived here this morning, and was immediately informed that I had come at a most interesting crisis. In the first place, the Texas agitation is in full blast.

Mr. Calhoun's extraordinary letter to Mr. Clay, his minister at Paris, has created a deep sensation. The feeling that the honor of our country has been most deplorably compromised, is very widely diffused, and is by no means confined to the party by whose unanimous acclamation, by its representatives in the Senate, Mr. Calhoun holds the station from which he can inflict such wounds upon our country's honor. That our government should, at this day, be making interest to secure the interference of one of the crowned heads of Europe in our affairs; that we should now renew the supplications we made in 1777, for the succor of France!—that, of all men in the world, Mr. Calhoun should be courting this interposition in a matter pertaining to slavery; that president Tyler's secretary should thus be establishing precedents of negotiation in favor of slavery, which may hereafter serve so admirably the purpose of President Birney's secretary in uniting by diplomacy the whole civilized world against it—what a jumble we are coming to!

My old and particular friend, General Duff Green, has so far succeeded in the errand he was sent upon, that he has found or made a considerably bigger mare's nest in Mexico, than the World's Convention afforded him in London. Minister Shannon seems to have been able, by dint of bullying and blackguard, to rouse the Mexican secretary of State, to tell some

truths in regard to the conspiracy of leading slaveholders under the command of Gen. Jackson's administration, to seize and appropriate Texas for the purposes of slavery. That is a question, I reckon, more easily asked than answered. It calls for information which the Texas conspirators would not answer if they could, and could not if they would. They know that the only way to carry the annexation, is to work upon the party feelings or the personal interests of members, until they are ready to 'go it blind.'

Petitions were again called for this morning, and Mr. Giddings disburdened his desk of a considerable variety of anti-slavery memorials. The slaveholders can learn nothing by the overthrow of the gag, but are resolved to create as much fuss and fret as is in their power. The reading of petitions was called for by them in almost every instance. The first one presented by Mr. G. prayed for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia.—

Mr. Black, of Georgia, raised the question of reception, and then a new game was played. Instead of moving to lay the question of reception on the table, some slaveholder, Black, Rhett, Dromgoole, Houston, or such like, gives notice of a wish to debate that question—and as all petitions giving rise to debate are by the rules laid over until another day, and this is the short session, in which it is hardly likely the docket will be reached at all, they are thus effectively disposed of—for the present.

An attempt was made, by some green chap of a slaveholder, to lay on the table the petitions against Texas; but he was easily taught his folly, and the petitions were regularly referred to the committee on foreign affairs. Several petitions on other points were also referred in a decent manner.

In the Senate, to-day, Mr. McDuffie introduced his promised joint resolution for the annexation of Texas to the Union, according to the terms of Tyler's treaty.—

He was met at once by Mr. Benton, who again brought forward his bill for the re-annexation of the ancient province of Texas, according to its original boundaries, with a provision for dividing it into four States, in two of which slavery should be forever and irrecoverably prohibited.—

The debate begins to-morrow, and will be highly interesting. If a proper demonstration is made by petitions and legislative resolutions, the annexation cannot take place this year, and the Richmond Enquirer admits that if not gained this year, it is probably lost forever!

In the House, to-day, petitions occupied the time. One presented by Mr. Adams, on national peace, was referred to the committee on foreign relations. Another, from the American Statistical Association, pointing out the extreme inaccuracy of the returns of the late census, was appropriately referred. Mr. A. moved that it be printed; whereupon the sagacious Mr. E. J. Black, of Georgia, at once smelt abolition, and for the purpose of detecting the plot, called for the reading of the memorial, which was done. The paper is exceeding elaborate, and showed some monstrous blunders in the returns with regard to the employments of the people, and in those concerning schools, colleges, and education—enough, surely, to destroy the credibility of the census, as the basis of any sound conclusions whatever. The bearing of this upon Mr. Calhoun's diplomacy, or some other concealed suspicion, produced a motion to lay the question of printing on the table, and Mr. Robert Dale Owen, of Indiana, moved to lay that question on the table. Year and nays called. Motion lost—yeas 90, nays 99! Then the question recurred—Shall the petition be received? Yeas and nays called, carried; yeas 107, nays 81! Mr. Adams then moved that the petition be referred to the committee on the District of Columbia, and a motion was instantly made that this motion lie on the table. Yeas and nays called. Motion lost—yeas 98, nays 99! Then a motion was made to adjourn, but this was voted down; and after being thus defeated at every point,

the slave party allowed the petition to be referred, without further resistance. I have no time to write reflections upon this vote—the first of the kind in eight years. The right of petition is now fully restored. For this the country is indebted to abolitionists. Let us henceforth bend our efforts to secure the object of our petitions. It is curious to see the few southern Whigs who have maintained the right of petition, now taunting their democratic colleagues with the fact that it is a democratic congress which has carried this point against the slaveholders. Some of the southern democratic members feel very bad—they say they are betrayed by their northern friends. There is a caucus among them [this evening, but there will be nothing very terrible. They are cowed amazingly. The retaliatory step will probably be an attempt to cede back the District of Columbia to Maryland and Virginia. But it will fail.

J. L.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.

The Texas question is up in both Houses; M'Duffie's plan having been introduced to day by Mr. C. J. Ingersoll, on report of the committee on foreign affairs.

The public mind should now be directed to this point, with intense solicitude, and the most strenuous efforts should be made, in plying every sort of legitimate influence, both upon the two Houses and upon individual members, to deepen their convictions of the evil of annexation, and to strengthen their determination to resist it at every hazard.

Letters written to members of Congress by their constituents, relatives, friends, and acquaintances, all have their effect. Petitions from every town, school district, neighborhood, workshop, should pour in apace. I believe the scheme can be resisted, but it requires effort. It is a momentous crisis.

The position of the Liberty party is beginning to be understood here, and its power is already felt. I cannot but contrast the present aspect of things with what it was when I first came here as a reporter, four years ago.

What would have been the influence of the party now, had the hundreds, perhaps some thousands, in the free States, who were deceived and debased by Whig falsehoods, only stood firm. They lost their votes, not only in a moral but in a political view, while every vote given for Birney, bears with force upon the politics of the country, and aids to keep back our rulers from the deed!

In the Senate, a resolution was offered by Mr. Phelps, of Vermont, which lies over one day by the rule, calling on the president for information concerning the amount of the debts of Texas, as they were at the time of the late treaty and as they are now; also for the quantity of land in Texas granted successively by the old Spanish government, by Mexico and by Texas, both before and since the treaty. That is a question, I reckon, to keep back our rulers from the deed!

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## IMPORTANT ISSUE.—SOUTH CAROLINA AND MASSACHUSETTS.

A question has arisen between these two States which is likely to produce some important results bearing directly on the slavery question. At the last two sessions of the Legislature of Massachusetts, measures were taken for employing or sending agents to southern ports for the protection of colored seamen from that State, by bringing their case before the Federal Court. This agency was offered to lawyers in those States, but was refused. Gov. Briggs then appointed Hon. Samuel Hoar, of Concord, for the city of Charleston, S. C., and Henry Hubbard, Esq., editor of the *Berkshire Whig*, for New Orleans, both able and high minded men. On the arrival of Mr. Hoar at Charleston, he duly announced to the Governor the objects of agency, who communicated it by a chivalric message to the legislature then in session. The action of the different branches is as follows:

In SENATE, Dec. 2, 1844.—Resolutions in reference to a special agency sent from the State of Massachusetts, submitted by Mr. Treville:

Whereas, Information has been received that the State of Massachusetts has recently appointed and sent to the city of Charleston, a special agent, with instructions and authority to institute proceedings, at her expense, in the Courts of the U. States for the purpose of testing the constitutionality of a certain act of this State, passed on the 10th of December, Anno Domini 1835, entitled, "An act more effectually to prevent free negroes and other persons of color from entering into this State, and for other purposes."

And whereas we have always regarded the aforesaid law as a necessary measure for the security of our property, and the peace and good order of society; and recent indications have not only proved that we were not mistaken, but that nothing short of the most rigid enforcement of said law to its very letter, can save us from the insidious policy and practices of the abolitionists; therefore

Resolved, That while we admit the right of Massachusetts to elevate the descendants of the African race to the rank of status of free white persons, and to confer on them all the rights and immunities which the most favored of her citizens enjoy within her own limits, we deny that she has any right to require us to extend to such of them as may enter our limits, the immunities and privileges which are secured by the constitution of the United States to her free white citizens alone.

Resolved, That the State of South Carolina ought not to submit to any dictation, either from a sister State or from the Supreme Court of the United States, on a subject of such vital importance to herself, as the government of her colored population; and should the aforesaid act be declared unconstitutional and invalid, by the Federal Courts, the principle of self-preservation will nevertheless compel her citizens at every expense of life and property, to uphold and maintain the due and rigid enforcement of the said law, according to its very letter and spirit.

Resolved, That the conduct of Massachusetts, in attempting to procure, by federal judicial legislation, the repeal of a law, which was intended to be, and is, a barrier between the slave and the abolitionists, is an unwarrantable and gross insult to the people of this State.

The Senate, it is said, passed the above resolutions unanimously. The House passed the following with but one dissenting vote:

Resolved, That the right to exclude from their territories seditious persons or others, whose presence may be dangerous to their peace, is essential to every independent State.

Resolved, That free Negroes and persons of color are not citizens of the United States within the meaning of the Constitution, which confers upon the citizens of one State the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States.

Resolved, That the emissary sent by the State of Massachusetts to the State of South Carolina, with the avowed purpose of interfering with her institutions and disturbing her peace, is to be regarded in the character he has assumed and to be treated accordingly.

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor be requested to expel from our territory the said Agent, after due notice to depart, and that the Legislature will sustain the Executive authority in any measures it may adopt for the purpose aforesaid.

Mr. Northrop proposed the following amendment to the last resolution:

Resolved, That the governor be referred to the Committee on Federal Relations, with instructions to report a bill providing adequate enactments and penalties for the further protection of our institutions, this or similar exigencies may require.

The Columbian correspondence of the Charles-  
ton Mercury says:

"To-day the governor communicated a letter received by him from one Hoar. \* \* The insincerity and impertinence of this abolition move is insufferable. \* \* The State will meet it in such a way as to preclude all chance of Federal interference, it is to be presumed, and thus make direct battle with our abolition enemies, and if Massachusetts persists in, or repeats the interference, there will be war between the two crack States of the Union."

Since the above was in type, we have seen a letter from Charleston, dated Dec. 5, of which the following is an extract:

"There is a great deal of excitement in the city in consequence of the mission and presence of Mr. Hoar. His situation is very unpleasant, but I hope there may be no outbreak, and that he may be induced to leave. Negotiations to that effect are now going on."

Another letter, of the 6th inst., says: "We understand that Mr. Hoar has consented to leave Charleston, and will probably take passage in the Wilmington boat this afternoon."

The South Carolinian, the Calhoun organ, dis-  
cusses thus:

God of justice and humanity! has it indeed come to this? Is South Carolina fallen so low, that she may not pass laws solely for her own safety, and absolutely necessary to it, except at the will of Massachusetts, or any power on earth?—Or, if she does so, shall Massachusetts thrust upon her soil her hireling myrmidons, to brave her sovereignty, and seek to trample it under foot, with the safety of her sons, and the honor and purity of her daughters, through the aid of her own Courts? If so, then

"Age—thou art shamed! Rome—thou hast lost the breed of noble bloods!"

She pretends to be governed by regard for the rights and safety of her citizens. Does she suppose South Carolina has none at all for her?—Shall she sedulously teach her negroes doctrines destructive of our very existence, and then thrust them upon our shores at will, to consume their demon-like purposes? Let our people answer! Appended to the letter of the impudent Abolition emissary of Massachusetts, will be seen the Resolutions it has called forth in the Senate. As a mere expression of opinion, these may be very well; but we trust something may be done in the case beyond mere words—some course of defensive action adopted, which will firmly maintain the sovereignty of the State, the supremacy of her *necessary* laws, and the safety of her citizens, in any emergency. Be the law of self-preservation constitutional or not, it must be sustained. Shall our most deadly and dangerous enemies force upon us the necessity of passing laws for our protection, and then themselves annual laws on the plea of unconstitutionality, or any plea on earth? God forbid!

Can Southerners look upon this monstrous outrage, and not see that the great crisis is nigh at hand? Can they doubt, that to quietly tolerate her, *ad libitum*, this bold, insolent, and officious Abolition emissary, and his continual, open, and persevering warfare on our necessary laws, will bring the spirit of our people, and gradually prepare them for submission? If so, then surely

some terrible fatuity is upon us, and we shall become our own worst enemies.

Mr. Hoar was absolutely forced to leave the State, and at the latest dates had arrived at Washington. He was insulted, the State which sent him outraged, the Constitution most manifestly trampled under foot, and complete independence asserted and maintained by South Carolina. The Federal Union is defied. What will Massachusetts do? What will the General Government do?—These questions time must answer. Either the Union of these States must yield, or another out-work must now be carried.

This measure was commenced in Mass. by the action of both parties, whether to conciliate the Abolitionists or not is immaterial; and it is gratifying to see but one voice from the press in that State,—which is, that Massachusetts must maintain her ground at all hazard.

It would seem that the incompatibility of the enslavement of one part of the people of this country with the liberties of the other, can no longer fail to be seen; and the sooner the issue is made up the better, for the spirit of liberty is already sufficiently enfeebled.

The question is one which must unite the great body of the north, let their views be what they may on abolition, and whatever is gained is gained *against slavery*. No ground can be lost, for the Liberty party is ready to trig the wheels.

**MR. TORREY'S CASE.**

Believing that our readers would wish for a full view of this important case, and that it would not probably be found in any other paper of this state, we have devoted much space to it this week. We have given, from the *Baltimore Sun*, an abstract of the testimony on which this virtuous and talented citizen is to be condemned to the penitentiary. We believe it would not have been deemed sufficient by any court in the free states for conviction on account of the character of the witness, at least some of the most important.

Mr. Richardson's plea was such as an attorney general of a slave state, educated in the pro-slavery school of law, and zealous, as we understand he is, for the "peculiar institution," would be likely to make. His defense of the validity and obligation of immoral law, and even its supremacy over the divine, was precisely such as we have heard of heretofore in Maine, where it was less sufficient to any court in the free states for conviction on account of the character of the witness, at least some of the most important.

The editor of the *Kennebec Journal* ought to meet the publication of that *Garland* forgery before the jury box. That would show who has misrepresented, and we hope it will be brought there.

## NEWS ITEMS.

**BRANDING.**—The *N. Y. Evening Post* (Dem.) justly remarks of Capt. Walker's sentence:

"A more brutal and infamous infliction than that decreed in this case, has not taken place to our knowledge in this country for many years."

**MOVEMENTS OF THE ABOLITIONISTS.**—We perceive from the abolition journals, that these party have commenced their movements for the next year by calling a general convention of all their friends in New York, New England, and all the central and Western States, which is to be held at Albany on the 4th and 5th of next month. All the great leaders of the abolition party are expected to be there, and will do as much mischief as they can to subvert.

But other remarks, showing the complete nullity of slave law on moral grounds, must be deferred.

### Thrice-Weekly Age.

The publishers of the Age propose to issue a paper three times a week during the next session of the Legislature. He says:

"We have made such arrangements as will insure us the services of able and faithful reporters in both branches of the Legislature, and intend that the reports of proceedings shall be full and accurate, and the sketches of debates as complete and perfect, as any that have been published at Augusta."

The price of the *Thrice-Weekly* will be one dollar for the session, payment in advance. It will be published on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, which will accommodate subscribers on all important mail routes.

Persons obtaining six subscribers, will be entitled to a seventh copy gratis.

### FORM OF PETITION.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:*

The undersigned, inhabitants of in the Commonwealth of Maine, earnestly request you to reject all propositions for the annexation of Texas to the United States, as slaveholding territory.

The editor of the *Kennebec Journal* ought to meet the publication of that *Garland* forgery before the jury box. That would show who has misrepresented, and we hope it will be brought there.

### REPEAL OF THE GAG.

Below, we give the yeas on the motion to rescind the 25th rule.

### YEAS.

MAINE—Dunlap, Hamlin, Herrick, Morse, Se-  
verance, White.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—Hale.

VERMONT—Collamer, Dillingham, Foot, Marsh.  
MASSACHUSETTS—Abbot, Adams, Baker, Grinnel, Hudson, King, Parmenter, Rockwell, Williams, Winthrop.

RHODE ISLAND—Cranston, Potter.

CONNECTICUT—Catlin, Seymour, Stewart.

NEW YORK—Anderson, Barnard, Benton, Car-  
penter, Cary, Clinton, Dana, Ellis, Fish, Green,  
Hubbell, Hungerford, Leonard, Moseley, Pater-  
son, Phiniz, Pratt, Purdy, Rathburn, Robinson,  
Rogers, Seymour, Smith, Stetson, Tyler, Whea-  
ton.

NEW JERSEY—Elmer, Farlee, Kirkpatrick,  
Wright.

PENNSYLVANIA—Black, Broadhead, Jeremiah  
Brown, Buffington, Darragh, Dickey, Fuller, Joshua  
R. Ingersoll, Irwin, Jenks, McElaine, Morris, Ness,  
Pollock, Ramsey, Ritter, Smith, Stewart, Yost.

MARYLAND—Kennedy, Preston, Welkered.

NORTH CAROLINA—Clingman.

KENTUCKY—White.

OHIO—Brinkerhoff, Dean, Duncan, Florence,  
Giddings, Hamlin, Harper, P. B. Johnson, Mc-  
Causlin, McDowell, Morris, St. John, Schenck,  
Vance, Vinton.

INDIANA—Henley, Kennedy, Owen, Pettit,

CONNECTICUT—Catlin, Seymour, Stewart.

NEW YORK—Carroll, Davis, Hunt, Macay, Rus-  
sell, Strong.

NEW JERSEY—Sykes.

PENNSYLVANIA—Foster, Hays, Reed.

MARYLAND—Brenkle.

VIRGINIA—Coles, Summers.

NORTH CAROLINA—Ragnor.

GEORGIA—Chappell.

ALABAMA—Belser.

MISSISSIPPI—Hammond, Roberts, Tucker.

TENNESSEE—McCullom, A. V. Brown, Dickin-  
son.

KENTUCKY—Green.

OHIO—Potter, Tilden, Van Meter.

MISSOURI—Bower, Hughes.

ARKANSAS—Cross.

MAINE—S. Cary.

CONNECTICUT—Simonds.

NEW YORK—Carroll, Davis, Hunt, Macay, Rus-  
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MISSOURI—Bower, Hughes.

ARKANSAS—Cross.

## Poetry.

From Blackwood's Magazine.

MY FRIEND.

Wouldst thou be friend of mine?  
Thou must be quick and bold  
When the right is to be done,  
And the truth is to be told.

Wearing no friend-like smile  
When thine heart is hot within,  
Making no truce with fraud or guile,  
No compromise with sin.

Open of eye and speech,  
Open of heart and hand,  
Holding thine own but as in trust  
For thy great brother-band.

Patient and stout to bear,  
Yet bearing not forever;  
Gentle to rule, and slow to bind,  
Like lightning to deliver!

True to thy fatherland,  
True to thine own true love;  
True to thine altar and thy creed,  
And thy good God above.

But with no bigot scorn  
For faith sincere as thine,  
Though less of form attend the prayer,  
Or more of pomp the shrine;

Remembering Him who spake  
The word that cannot lie,  
Where two or three in my name meet,  
There in the midst am I!"

I bar thee not from faults,  
God wot, it were in vain!  
Inalienable heritage  
Since that primal stain!

The wisest have been fools;  
The surest stumbled sore;  
Strike thou to stand—or fall'n arise,  
I ask thee not for more!

This do, and thou shalt knit  
Closely my heart to thine;  
Next the dear love of God above,  
Such friend on earth be mine!

## A PRAYER.

LIKE the low murmur of the secret stream,  
Which through dark alders winds its shaded way,  
My suppliant voice is heard. Ah! do not deem  
That on vain toys I throw my hours away.

In the recesses of the forest vale,  
On the wild mountains, on the verdant sod,  
When the fresh breezes of the morn prevail,  
I wander lone, communing with my God.

When the faint sickness of a wounded heart  
Creeps in cold shudders through my sinking frame,

I turn to Thee! that holy pace imparts,  
Which sooths the invaders of Thy awful name!

O all pervading Spirit! sacred beam!  
Parent of life and light! Eternal power!  
Grant me through obvious clouds one transient  
gleam  
Of Thy bright essence in my dying hour!

BECKFORD.

## Anti Slavery.

### ANOTHER LETTER FROM MR. TORREY.

Dec. 1, Evening.

Well, I am convicted; and, of course, liable on each indictment, to six years imprisonment in the penitentiary.

My counsel gave immediate notice of a motion for arrest of judgment, on the ground of a legal defect in the indictment. But I do not believe that will be of any service, though I have little doubt that the grounds of the motion are *legally* correct.

It is, that the indictment fails to state that, in the words of the statute, I am a 'free person.' In States where the quibbles of the old common law practice and 'special pleading' prevail, I have no doubt the objection is a good one.

Massachusetts, most wisely and justly, set aside all such proceedings, by that measure of legal reform which Robert Rantoul, Jr., carried through the legislature.

Even should the motion result in my discharge, it will not change my settled opinion as to the bad and corrupting tendency of such proceedings. I submit to having the motion made with the greatest reluctance; albeit, I do not believe the court will yield to it, plain as I am told the matter is, where such legal technicians as Robert Rantoul, Jr., carried through the legislature.

Notice was also given of a motion for a new trial. But this my family, and other friends, urge me not to press.

I say, without hesitation, that, as a mere criminal proceeding, I should have given the same verdict, had I been a juror, on the unimpeachable evidence of those reprobate Rigidons. Still, I know that the entire evidence they gave, so far as it related to the charge, was perjured, as was the whole of the wretched Hatch's testimony and that of young Heckrotte, so far as it refers to me. Some part of their perjuries could easily be proved—as, for example, all that Samuel F. Rigdon said of seeing me with whole loads of negroes, in April, May and November, 1843, when 10,000 people of New York and New England, know just as well as they know the existence of the sun in heaven, that I was not within 200 miles of Maryland.

The jury did not believe the evidence of either young Heckrotte or Hatch; but relied on the identity of the horses and carriage, the ribbon matter, and the Rigidons' testimony, which, as I before said, is perjured in regard to all that refers to having seen me with three negroes; or their having seen Heckrotte's boy at all; which none of them ever did, or any man resembling him in dress, color, stature, features or age; or in regard to the tooth of the 'old woman,' or the dress of either mother or daughter.

In all these items I know they swore falsely. As to a considerable portion of the other items, I do not know whether or not the witnesses swore truly, as they are strangers to me. The entire ribbon business, I am deeply persuaded, was a shrewd trick, concocted in this city on the first visit of the Rigidons.

My counsel, as convinced of the falsehood of the testimony of these men as I am, deem it hardly probable that it can be so entirely destroyed as to prevent a second conviction. The credibility of two of the Rigidons, the old man, Sam, and Robert, could be easily destroyed. George has more persons of reputation, who, from the character he formerly deserved, still believe his legal veracity good. So, on the whole, they advise submission to the verdict, in case their motion in arrest of judgment fails.

Richardson's plea was able, and, on the whole, very fair and manly. The only exception I would make to this is, that he

persisted in sustaining the testimony of the reprobate Hatch. I do not think he really put any confidence in it. He only undertook to sustain it on this ground, viz., that some of Hatch's statements must have been derived from me. The particular items he referred to were nearly the same that were contained in the testimony of the two Rigidons on my arrest, and of which I had often spoken, to forty people, so they were already public matters. The only exceptions to this were three.—(1.) A certain 'old Nick,' a colored blacksmith was referred to. I know not where he got this; for I never heard of such a man myself, till Sam Davis named him, in confessing to me the scoundrelism Hatch and he, and Heckrotte, and others, had planned for the purpose of securing my conviction. I set a man to work to find if there was such a person, but he could find no such man!

The next particular related to my alleged meeting negroes in a graveyard back of Greenmount cemetery. I never was there but once, and that in the day time, and alone. When we were planning the attempt to escape, I remembered that solitary place, and fixed on it as the place we would run for first if we got out. I subsequently spoke of it to many persons, to two of the board of visitors, and others. Hatch got the idea of locating my pretended 'confession' there from that source.

The third item is in regard to his knowing how Heckrotte was in the habit of calling Hannah Gooseberry his 'old woman.' Heckrotte himself called her so, in conversation with him, before the letter was written—I never did. There was no other item of his confession, his knowledge of which could not be accounted for, without any reference to his false 'confessions.' This poor creature was mad with me because, in an effort to benefit him, I indirectly gave others a clue to his real name, though I then supposed him to be Davis Hatch, his very respectable and excellent brother. It was only so late as November 14, that I learned from Horace Dresser, Esq., his true name and character. His only object in proposing or agreeing to swear falsely against me, was manifestly to save his own neck, by aiding what he supposed was popular feeling against an imprisoned abolitionist. In his testimony, he unintentionally admitted his own identity with 'James Wilson,' under which name he stands indicted here for stealing a horse and sleigh. His counsel had previously got another theft of a horse and gig settled by arbitration.

Why am I thus minute? It is that none of my friends may ever, from any unexplained items, deem me guilty of the stupid folly of putting myself in the power of this man, by any such 'confession' as he falsely swore to.

He also speaks of Patterson's negroes. Such a man came to the window one day and charged me with aiding some of his slaves to escape. This Hatch knew.—Patterson saw Hatch before the trial.—But I was not within 450 miles of Maryland (being in western New York) when Patterson's first slaves left, according to his advertisement in the Sun. Indeed, I think on that very day I was in the house of Henry Bradley, of Penn Yan, Yates county. He had another run off last spring or winter, when I was in Philadelphia. When I came to Baltimore, April 15th or 17th, his advertisements for her were still in the prints. But I never saw her or any of the others.

Do you want to know how I feel towards these perjured beings, and others, to whom I owe my imprisonment? I reply, I feel kindly, forbearingly. Some of them I deeply commiserate for their awful guilt before God. I cannot help pitying poor Hatch, very much. I tried, by several hints, to give him warning of what an exposure awaited him; but it only seemed to make him more brazen in crime. Who but must pity such a man! Could I be freed to-night, by taking upon my soul one tithe of his guilt and future remorse, I would not do it; no, not for more than all life itself had or could have to induce me. And so I feel towards young Heckrotte and those Rigidons. The latter, professional slave catchers by occupation, belong to the most degraded class of southern society. You have no corresponding class in the North—only here and there individuals, who might rank with these border-bloodhounds and with what Wirt so justly called the 'scum of the creation,' viz., planters overseers.

No, thank God! freedom has no use, no occupations to call into existence classes of such beings, within her domains.—May Maryland soon cease to have such creatures within her borders. Slavery done away, this would soon become a glorious State; though, no doubt, a generation would pass away before the dreadful social immoralities that follow in the train of slavery would disappear.

Do you ask, 'have you any thing to regret, in what you have done, whether for individual slaves or the cause of freedom?' No, from the bottom of my heart NO! According to the light given me, and the degree of physical and mental powers I possessed, I have labored faithfully, and as wisely as I knew how. If others have been wiser, it is because God made them so. If they have done more, it is because he gave them higher powers and ample opportunities for action.

On another topic I wish to say a few words. This wretched Hatch, among other fictions, coined pretended 'threats' against the lives of Heckrotte and the keepers, etc. Those who have known my life and opinions and actions from infancy, will readily class this with the 'six-barrelled pistol' story, which appeared in a Philadelphia paper, I am told, after my attempt to escape. I was thinking of it yesterday, as a singular fact, that one with so large an organ of combative ness as I possess, and as enthusiastically as I loved drest details of military science from my earliest remembrance till I was twenty years old, (nay, I do still think such books far more amusing than novels!)—I say, that in all my life, I never had a quarrel with any one. No one, I believe, ever suspected me of any want of physical or moral courage, to do any act

whatever, dangerous or not. Yet I solemnly declare, that from my infancy to this hour, I never raised my hand or finger, or used any weapon or instrument whatever, in violence against any human being! (Unless the correction of my children and pupils in school be so deemed, I am of Solomon's creed on those topics!) I never even threatened violence to any one. In my boyhood, I avoided the rude sports of my playmates. In one instance only in my life, did I ever wrestle with any one. That was with my friend and school-fellow, a good abolitionist, Wm. P. Briggs, of Scituate. Has he forgotten the wrestling bout in the ploughed field, in the young orchard, north of his father's house, at Scituate, or how he whipped me? Happy boys were we then; little dreaming of the future that might await us; what opinions of morals, politics, religion, we should cherish; what labors and toils for ourselves or others we should perform or endure; what our social relations might be, or our destiny, freedom to him or a prison to me. For years those bright days of boyhood had almost passed from memory, till my lonely hours in prison revived them. How many of all the dear companions we loved are already in their graves! How many more we shall never meet again. 'Meet again?' I am in prison. Years will probably elapse before I shall see again cheerful faces, and hear any of the happy voices of my own dear children. Even they, if I live, will have forgotten their father's features, even if love preserves his memory. How have I wandered away! I began with referring to my habitual and uniform avoidance of both violence and threats of it, both because I was falsely accused and because a friend told me the reports equally false and idle, at the time of my attempted escape, had wounded some friends whose regard I highly cherish, and I ended with dreams of my early youth!

## JONATHAN WALKER.

We copy from the Liberator the letter conveying the information in regard to Mr. Walker, which we gave a few days since in a brief paragraph.

ESCAMBIA COUNTY, 11th mo. 17th, 1844.

H. W. Williams:—Respected friend,—Being under the impression that there are some persons in your section of the country who are anxious to learn the result of Jonathan Walker's trial at Pensacola, I hasten to inform you that it took place on the 11th, and terminated on the same day. Between 10 and 11, A. M. the prisoner was arraigned before the court; but, not having any counsel, the judge appointed Benjamin D. Wright, a member of the bar to defend him. The District attorney, who was the prosecuting officer, presented to the court four indictments against the prisoner—one for aiding and assisting, and one for enticing slaves to run away—and two for stealing slaves. The prisoner was put upon his trial, and found guilty of all four indictments by the jury, and a verdict rendered as follows:—

1st. To be BRANDED IN THE

RIGHT HAND with the letters S. S.

2d. To stand in the pillory one hour.

3d. To be imprisoned fifteen days.

4th. To pay a fine of one hundred and sixty dollars.

Prisoner Walker was again remanded to jail until the 16th, at 10 A. M., when he was again conducted to court, and the judge pronounced the sentence upon him, viz.:—To stand one hour in the pillory, (which was in front of the court house,) and branded in the right hand with the letters S. S.—after which, to be remanded to prison for fifteen days, and there to remain committed until the fine and cost of prosecution should be paid, which cost had previously got another theft of a horse and gig settled by arbitration.

Why am I thus minute? It is that none of my friends may ever, from any unexplained items, deem me guilty of the stupid folly of putting myself in the power of this man, by any such 'confession' as he falsely swore to.

He also speaks of Patterson's negroes. Such a man came to the window one day and charged me with aiding some of his slaves to escape. This Hatch knew.—Patterson saw Hatch before the trial.—But I was not within 450 miles of Maryland (being in western New York) when Patterson's first slaves left, according to his advertisement in the Sun. Indeed, I think on that very day I was in the house of Henry Bradley, of Penn Yan, Yates county. He had another run off last spring or winter, when I was in Philadelphia. When I came to Baltimore, April 15th or 17th, his advertisements for her were still in the prints. But I never saw her or any of the others.

Do you want to know how I feel towards these perjured beings, and others, to whom I owe my imprisonment? I reply, I feel kindly, forbearingly. Some of them I deeply commiserate for their awful guilt before God. I cannot help pitying poor Hatch, very much. I tried, by several hints, to give him warning of what an exposure awaited him; but it only seemed to make him more brazen in crime. Who but must pity such a man! Could I be freed to-night, by taking upon my soul one tithe of his guilt and future remorse, I would not do it; no, not for more than all life itself had or could have to induce me. And so I feel towards young Heckrotte and those Rigidons. The latter, professional slave catchers by occupation, belong to the most degraded class of southern society. You have no corresponding class in the North—only here and there individuals, who might rank with these border-bloodhounds and with what Wirt so justly called the 'scum of the creation,' viz., planters overseers.

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AN EYE-WITNESS.

From the Morning Chronicle.

## THE DEMOCRATS.

Let him laugh who wins, says the old saw. But the northern Democrats have little reason to laugh. If, ever since this clod was set a rolling, hypocrisy has stood incarnate, it is in the present Democratic party. We all know what they profess—equal brotherhood—abhorrence of kings—man before property, &c. &c. &c.

What are they? What have they done? Their stoutest wire-pullers are men who have stouted their fellow men into property—just as fit to be called Democrats as the boy of Tunis, or the sultan of Turkey, or the czar of Russia—dealers, practical dealers, in human flesh—who buy it when

they have occasion to use it, with as little compunction as one of us would buy a horse.

All the rest are—tools! Hard word, and we say it in sorrow, but we must say it. If our honored and honorable fellow-citizens, such as Bancroft, Bryant, Sedgwick, object to this, we beg to refer them to the Baltimore convention.—That convention was and is the voice of their party. If Polk and the slaveholders have not dragged them straight through the mud, it is because they have gone willingly, which is still worse. We challenge them to point out in all history a more audacious and shameless piece of political profligacy than the trick by which Mr. Polk was imposed upon the party instead of Mr. Van Buren, or subserviency more base and sickening than the acquisition of the northern members.

We have said severe things against the Whigs as a party—not more severe than true. On that account we have been accused of 'Locofocoism.' But this was a total mistake—in fact, worse than a mistake, and the Whigs knew it. The truth was, the Whigs dressed their wolf in sheepskin, with the wool on, while the Democrats let theirs go in his native garment. There was of course special work to be done with the Whig candidate before election. The other wolf is now elected, and the Liberty party will not mince matters with him. The tune will now change and we shall hear ourselves denounced as Whigs,—even those of us who have been openly from our cradles as radical about banks and tariffs as Mr. Van Buren dares to be only in secret,—will be placarded as high-tariff Whigs, and all that. We shall respectfully refer our accusers to the abundant Whig documents of the recent campaign.

We name the present Democratic party hypocrisy incarnate,—not that every northern Democrat is a mere pretender; far from it. We speak of the party as it has chosen to represent itself. Thousands of northern Democrats have even voted for an avowed annexationist and slaveholder, in the confidence that the party would control him when elected, and choke him off from swallowing our liberties whole. That is now the task before them. It is no laughing matter they will find. It is not only Mr. Pol